Trial of Hijackers

619. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special court in Pakistan tried PANAM hijackers;

(b) whether India was represented at the trial before the special court; and

(c) the details of decision by the Special Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) No judgement has so far been passed by the Special Court in Pakistan has been conducting the trial of the PANAM aircraft hijackers. India is not represented at the trial.

Rules for visiting Singapore

620. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new rules for visiting Singapore have been framed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indians visiting Singapore must obtain visas from Singapore Consulates in India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that similar restrictions on Singaporeans visiting India have not been placed, and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes. With effect from 14-9-1987 the Government of Singapore have introduced a visa regime for Indian nationals intending to visit Singapore.

(b) Yes. Indians intending to visit Singapore must obtain visas from the Singapore Mission in Delhi or elsewhere abroad prior to the visit.

(c) and (d). No. A visa regime in respect of nationals of all Commonwealth countries including those of Singapore exists since June, 1984.

Theft of Radioactive Pencil from Behala Industrial Complex

621. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a hazardous radioactive pencil has been stolen from the Behala Industrial complex alongwith some other items;

(b) whether the people have been warnted about the serious effects of coming into contact with the radioactive pencil; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to strengthen security measures at such vital industrial installations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Newspapers reported the loss of the source pencil and possible hazards to persons coming into contact with it. The source was recovered within two days.

(c) Safe custody and security of radioactive sources are the responsibilities of licensed institutions. They are being asked to exercise greater vigilance by tightening security measures.